From: Michael Cornelius
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:43am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to comment on the Proposed Final Judgment (PFJ) in the case
of United States v. Microsoft. I am a professional software developer,
active in software design and creation since the early 1980s. I have
worked on projects for a variety of platforms including Windows, Linux,
Unix, and Macintosh.

The PFJ is flawed in that it allows many anticompetitive and exclusionary
practices on the part of Microsoft to continue. In particular, I am
concerned that it is insufficiently strong with regard to the relationship
between Microsoft and Independent Software Vendors (ISV).

III.D, for example, requires the disclosure of APIs and related
documentation for Windows Middleware, but only for the purpose of
interoperating with a Windows Operating System Product. In fact,
Microsoft should be required to disseminate this information and allow
it to be used also for the purpose of interacting with application
software written for Windows Operating System Products.

Similarly, III.E proposals should be broadened to require the
availability of Communications Protocols for use in interoperating with
application software. The use of these protocols should also extend to
client software for any operating system interoperating with a Microsoft
server, as well as any server software interoperating with client
application written for Windows.

In conclusion, the PFJ begins to address anticompetitive and exclusionary
practices of Microsoft, but, unfortunately, stops short of either
redressing past damages or actually preventing future abuses. I urge
reconsideration of the proposed settlement.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Cornelius
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